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(54) **Sheet-feeding cassette apparatus.**

(57) A feed cassette apparatus is an apparatus for retaining a loaded feed cassette (15) in a cassette housing space containing a feed roller, wherein the feed cassette (15) is loaded or unloaded in the direction parallel to the axis of the feed roller (20). The apparatus includes a cassette case (5) and a plurality of positioning means (80). The cassette case is movable in the feed-cassette (15) loading direction and is capable of housing feed cassettes (15) of different sizes. The positioning means are disposed at different positions in the cassette case to suit the different-sized feed cassettes (15), and position the end of a stack of sheets in a given feed cassette (15) under the feed roller. A feed cassette (15) to be housed in the cassette case is positioned by the positioning means corresponding to the feed cassette (15) size. As a result, when the cassette case is moved in the loading direction in order to load the feed cassette (15) into the cassette housing space, the end of the stack of sheets in the feed cassette (15) is brought precisely into position under the feed roller (20).

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 92 10 4224

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	EP-A-0 121 908 (MITA) * page 8, line 14 - page 11, line 1; figures 2-4 * ---	1,11	B 65 H 1/04 G 03 G 15/00
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 9, no. 226 (M-412)[1949], 12 September 1985; & JP-A-60 082 538 (FUJI XEROX) 10-05-1985; & JP-A-58 188 929 * abstract * -----	1,11	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			B 65 H G 03 G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 05-06-1992	Examiner EVANS A.J.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,
namely:

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- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid,
namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims,
namely claims: 1-22



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-22: A feed cassette apparatus.
2. Claims 23-29: A feed roller apparatus.